April 6, 2004



April 6, 2004 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Sacramento Area Council of Governments 1415 L Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814-3963

Jason Crow (916) 340-6219

	Meeting called by: Rachel Falsetti						
	Facilitator: Cathy Gomes						
	Recorder/Time Keeper: Abhijit Bagde	Recorder/Time Keeper: Abhijit Bagde					
	Agenda topics						
Item	Description		Time	Presenter			
1	Topics/Agenda/Introductions		10:30	C. Gomes			
2	Ground Rules		10:35	C. Gomes			
3	Announcements / Approval of the 02/19/04 CFPG meeting mir	10:40	All				
4	Follow-Up Items from last meeting:		10:45				
	Check with HQ-Local Assist. to check if grouped Project Listing can be provided in excel format	April 6, 2004.		CT-FTIP			
	2. Review comments on summary "Grouped Projects And Minor Change Guidelines" and "Communication Process for State Managed Grouped Project Listing to CT-FTIP	Feb. 27, 2004		All			
	3. Review comments on the Financial Planning Guidelines to CT-FTIP	March 5, 2004		All			
	4. Meeting with Annual Listing Task Force to discuss Letter to FHWA regarding obtaining annual obligation Information	April 6, 2004		SCAG			
	5. Create new fund in CTIPS for STP Earmark	Feb. 20, 2004		CT-FTIP			
	6. Support cost in CTIPS	April 6, 2004		CT-FTIP			
7	Grouped projects and minor changes.		10:55	Taskforce			
8	Financial Constraint of the FSTIP - updates		11:00	All			

	Apportionment carryover in the 2004 FTIP	11:05	A. Bagde
	CMAQ and RSTP estimates	11:20	A. Bagde
16	Open Forum & Next meeting date and location	12:25	All
	2004 CFPG Meetings		
	May 18, 2004 FHWA		
	June 29, 2004 MTC		

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<u>CALIFORNIA FEDERAL PROGRAMMING GROUP (CFPG)</u> <u>MEETING MINUTES – April 6, 2004</u>

The CFPG meeting was held at the SACOG Conference Room, Sacramento, from 10:30 to 11:30.

1. Topics/Agenda/Introductions:

Meeting started with self-introduction of attendees and review of the agenda items.

2. Ground Rules:

Cathy Gomes went over the following ground rules for the meeting,

- Since there are phone participants, everyone who speaks should state his/her name and agency.
- Keep comments as brief as possible
- Stick to the current agenda item. Additional items not in the agenda will be added to the end and will be discussed if time permits.
- Turn off cell phones and limit interruptions
- This is a forum to hear everyone's concerns comments and suggestions. Please make sure your voice is heard.
- Facilitator to ask before moving on to the next item if anyone on the phone has any additional comments on the item, then pause for a few seconds.
- Respond to follow up items and meeting notices by the deadlines.
- Except for follow up items, the minutes will include discussions that take place during the meeting only. If you do not want what you say during the meeting included in the minutes, state "off the record".
- When not speaking, phone participants to keep their phones on mute if possible.

3. Announcements/Approval of the 02/19/04 CFPG meeting minutes:

No announcements were made. Meeting minutes for February 19, 2004 CFPG meeting were approved without comments or changes.

4. Follow-up items from last meeting:

- (A) Can "Grouped Project Listing" be provided in Excel format by Local Assistance? No, the information is not available in Excel.
- (B) Reviewed comments on summary "Grouped Projects and Minor Change Guidelines" and "Communication Process for State Managed Grouped Project Listing".
- (C) Review comments on Financial Planning Guidelines. The final Financial Planning Guidelines and associated comments were distributed April 5, 2004, via email from Cathy Gomes.
- (D) Meeting with Annual Listing Task Force to discuss 2004 letter to FHWA regarding obtaining annual obligation information. Per Rosemary Ayala, this item is deferred to the next meeting.
- (E) Create new fund in CTIPs for STP earmark. This item is complete.
- (F) Support costs in CTIPS. Defer to next meeting.

5. Programming TEA projects (Handout 1):

Abhijit informed the group that a new fund has been created in CTIPS to program TEA projects as the TEA program is now administered under STIP. He also reminded this fund type is for the federal funds and matching funds should to be programmed. "Placeholders" are not permitted in the FSTIP; however, "grouped listings" are OK. Grouped listings must have specific projects identified. Depending upon available information (after CTC action) at the time of programming, it may be necessary to amend TEA projects into the FSTIP when appropriate. Estimated funding may be

included in the financial constraint component. Both the Caltrans TEA Coordinator and the MPO are responsible for maintaining a group list of TEA projects.

Follow-up: Abhijit will clarify who initiates TEA changes.

6. Grouped projects and minor changes:

Sue Kiser told the group that FHWA met with FTA's Planning Director and are in agreement that the Federal and State governments will enter into an MOU to identify revised criteria for Administrative Amendments and it will also include reference to the guidelines developed by the Task Force. She also stated that any proposed changes to the guidelines shall be addressed to Caltrans, and Caltrans with consultation with FHWA and FTA will make the necessary changes to the guidelines. A draft draft MOU will be distributed to the CFPG members shortly.

Follow-up: Distribute DRAFT MOU when available.

7. Financial constraint of FSTIP - updates:

Abhijit stated that only MTC has demonstrated financial constraint of their 2002 FTIp. Per Sue Kiser, the expectation is that the financial plan should be flexible enough to accommodate Administrative Amendments. Planning regulations, CFR 23, part 450, Metropolitan TIP project selection procedures, provide flexibility to advance projects within current triennial period of the FTIP and an Administrative Amendment is not absolutely required.

8. Apportionment carryover in the 2004 FTIP:

Sue Kiser discussed programming of carryover apportionments. MPOs should program 2004 FTIP based on the 2004 Fund Estimate levels. Show 'prior year' funding as information only as has been done in the past. Per federal regulations MPOs may program up to the apportionment levels for each year of the FTIP. There is approximately a 10% difference between apportionment levels and OA, which allows for flexibility. The FTIP, a three year document, is updated every two years. Provided that the project selection procedures within 23CFR 450.332 are in place, there is sufficient flexibility in the FTIP to manage/move projects within the triennial period without an amendment.

California has about \$3 billion of unobligated funds and about \$366 million OA. Historically, OA is less than apportionments, so apportionments "build up" over time. The State/Region/CTC manage OA so that funding is not lost.

Paul Page clarified that FTA funds DO expire after four years if not in a grant.

Todd Muck commented on the payback of \$50M per year to the regions included in the 2004 STIP Fund Estimate. Abhijit will check with Division of Budgets about the distribution of \$50 M to the Regions. Abhijit informed the group that Local Assistance typically holds OA for regions until June 30. After June 30th, OA is made available on a first-come, first-served basis. Discussion of when CMAQ/RSTP apportionment online report will be updated. This report, commonly referred to as the "Bost" report, is managed by the Division of Local Assistance. Eric Bost is no longer managing the report and Local Assistance is training new staff for the task.

Follow-up: Cathy Gomes will notify Terri Lewis of the Local Assistance contact person for Terri's area.

9. CMAQ and RSTP estimates:

The above estimates for FYs 2003/04 through 2006/07 have been distributed to MPOs.

Lisa Poe, SANBAG, asked if Section 115 comes "off the top"? Raymond Odunlami, MTC, indicated that, yes, Section 115 comes off the top, but not CMAQ & RSTP. Section 115 is off the top of State funding.

Sue Kiser indicated that traditionally Congress earmarks projects above apportionments, however for FY04 the earmarks will be taken from apportionments, this actually left more funding, \$52 million, to be apportioned to California. There may be a technical amendment.

Open forum:

Sue Kiser provided a Reauthorization update. Both the Senate and House have passed reauthorization bills but there are significant differences. Will go to Conference Committee; however, the House is in recess until April 20th. House bill is in line with President but contains significant (over 3,000) earmarks. The Senate bill funding level is very high but contains fewer earmarks.

Sue also mentioned that FHWA is attempting to capture all federal funds available for programming (as opposed to piece meal by category). Asking Local Assistance to provide information in summary format.

2004 CFPG Meetings:

DATE	LOCATION	
May 18, 2004	FHWA	
June 29, 2004	MTC	

FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

Item	Topic	Who	When
4C	New Start financial planning comments	FTA - Paul	May, 18
		Page	
5	TEA projects: who initiates changes?	CT- Abhijit	May, 18
		Bagde	
6	Distribute draft Federal/State MOU for	FHWA -Sue	soon
	Administrative Amendments.	Kiser	
8	Notify MCAG who their contact is for	CT- Cathy	April, 13
	CMAQ/RSTP obligation info (Bost report)	Gomes	
8	Get info from Budgets about \$50 million	CT-Abhijit	May, 18
	-	Bagde	